

Award recognizing the industry's top new talent. At the awards ceremony, he was introduced by legendary country music star George Jones who remarked, "This boy from Beaumont, Texas is the real deal."

Throughout the 90's Mark's singles continued to light up the chart including some of the decade's most memorable up-tempo hits like "Bubba Shot the Jukebox" and "Going Through the Big D." Also accelerating his rise to stardom were hits like the emotional ballads "I'll Think of Something" and "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing."

Mark's excellence continues today combining world-class vocals and awe-inspiring stage performances that leave crowds standing in ovation until they themselves are hoarse! Most remarkable of all, he stays true to his roots keeping the traditional country music style he was raised on in an ever-changing country music landscape.

Mark Chesnutt is a true gift to Country Music and specifically the 8th District of Texas. Not only has he blessed us with musical hit after hit, he also has tirelessly given of his time and talent to assist east and south-east Texas in their recovery from the devastating effects of Hurricane Rita. Mark also has a wonderful marriage to Tracie Chesnutt with three beautiful children: Waylon, Casey, and Cameron.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for helping me honor Mark Chesnutt, this America country music superstar, on his 43rd birthday.

**CONGRATULATING RONNIE LOPEZ
FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO VALLE
DEL SOL'S HALL OF FAME**

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to proudly pay tribute to an Arizonan who has exemplified the meanings of leadership, commitment to community, social justice and integrity. He is a highly-regarded leader not only in Arizona, but nationally, and someone whom I am proud to call my friend—Mr. Ronnie López.

For more than 30 years, Ronnie López has been a leader in various community and political endeavors that have improved the quality of life for Arizona's residents. For his work, he will be entered into the Valle Del Sol Hall of Fame during the 16th Annual Profiles of Success Hispanic Leadership Awards Celebration on September 8, 2006, in Phoenix, Arizona.

Born in Miami, Arizona, Ronnie and his two brothers were raised by a single parent, Mrs. Vera López, after the death of his father. Ronnie married his high school sweetheart, Angie, and together they headed to Phoenix in the late 1960's to pursue higher education ;cmd new opportunities. They have two outstanding sons, Paul and Marcos, and Paul and his wife Elizabeth are expecting a daughter in December, another point of pride for Ronnie as a first-time grandfather.

Ronnie served in the administration of Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt for ten years, ultimately serving as his Chief of Staff. Ronnie

had the honor of twice administering the oath of office to Babbitt: when then Attorney General Bruce Babbitt succeeded to the governorship in 1979 and again in 1993 when Babbitt became the Secretary of Interior. He has served and continues to serve on numerous boards and commissions, including Bank of America, Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, Friends of Sky Harbor Advisory Board, and the Governor's Commission on the September 11th Memorial.

Most recently, Ronnie served as the co-chair of the 2006 City of Phoenix Bond Committee the work of which voters approved in March 2006. Ronnie also is the former presiding Justice of the Peace of the West Phoenix Precinct in Maricopa County. Ronnie also led the establishment of community based organizations like Valle del Sol, Inc., and Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc., two of the Valley's leading non-profit Hispanic advocacy organizations.

He also has served on numerous political campaigns and sits on the National Democratic Business Council. Among his many accolades, in the year 2000, he was listed as one of the "Most Influential Hispanics" by Hispanic Business Magazine.

Mr. Speaker, as you can surmise, Ronnie López, a Miami Vandal, has exhibited a tireless and visionary commitment to making Arizona a better place to live for all people. He is an exemplary leader and a profoundly committed individual who is a true role model for the nation. Therefore, I am pleased to pay tribute to my friend Ronnie López, and I know my colleagues will join me in thanking him and wishing him great success.

**TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND ENCOURAGE
CONGRESS'S SUPPORT FOR
SEPTEMBER 9-10 DESIGNATED AS
LUPUS AWARENESS WEEKEND**

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to emphasize the importance of raising awareness about Lupus, as well as recognizing it as one of America's major diseases. It is important to note more Americans have this disease than cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, sickle-cell anemia and cystic fibrosis combined.

In raising awareness about this devastating disease, I joined many of my colleagues in supporting increased funding for public and health professional programs which raise awareness and understanding about lupus. Furthermore, I stand with many of my colleagues in strengthening the Nation's research efforts to identify the causes of and cure for lupus.

I believe one of the more important ways of raising awareness is encouraging education about the disease and recognizing the symptoms. However, as many of the symptoms experienced by those who have lupus mimic other diseases, lupus is very often hard to diagnose. There is no cure for lupus and researchers have yet to learn what causes the

disease. It is of interest to note, lupus occurs more frequently in women and is also two to three times more common among African Americans, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to support September 9 through 10 as Lupus Awareness Weekend. I am hopeful with increased professional awareness and improved techniques for diagnosing patients we can ensure early treatment options as well as early diagnosis. It is of utmost importance we remain vigilant in improving access to information about this disease and ensuring funding levels remain adequate.

**RECOGNITION OF RAYMOND C.
BORGIA OF THE GLENWOOD
SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**

HON. MELISSA L. BEAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank Raymond C. Borgia for his exemplary service at the Glenwood School for Boys and Girls located in Glenwood, IL.

A student himself at Glenwood from 1938 to 1949, Mr. Borgia excelled as a student leader serving as a battalion commander from 1947 through 1949. Mr. Borgia was awarded an officer's saber in 1947 and awarded the prestigious Glenwood Schools' Wilfred Sykes Award in 1949.

After attending Northern Illinois University in 1949 to 1950, Mr. Borgia served as a combat infantryman in the Korean war from 1950 to 1953. To honor his heroic service to our country, he was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. After leaving active duty in 1953, Mr. Borgia went on to serve in the U.S. Army Reserves for 17 years.

Upon his return to Illinois, Mr. Borgia enrolled at the Chicago Technical College where he obtained a degree in industrial engineering in 1955.

In January 1957, he began as an instructor at the Glenwood School for Boys and Girls. During his distinguished career at Glenwood, Mr. Borgia served as a camp director, military instructor, football coach, baseball coach, dean and vice president of the school. Over the last half century, Mr. Borgia has committed his life to being a mentor and role model to generations of young men and women.

On December 31, 2006, Raymond Borgia will retire after 50 years of service at the Glenwood School for Boys and Girls. To commemorate his many contributions to Glenwood, the school named a military award as well as the dining hall at Glenwood's Wisconsin camp after Mr. Borgia.

He celebrates his retirement with his wife of 45 years, Manuela, his three sons and their wives, six grandchildren and generations of Glenwood students and friends. Although Mr. Borgia is leaving Glenwood School for Boys and Girls, his impact on the thousands of students he has instructed will last for many years to come.